

GIRAFFA CAMELOPARDALIS RETICULATA DE WINTON, 1899:
PROPOSED PRESERVATION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS
(MAMMALIA). Z.N.(S.) 1841

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There are several subspecies of the giraffe, *Giraffa camelopardalis* (Linnaeus 1758). One of them, *Giraffa camelopardalis reticulata* de Winton, 1899 (*Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.* ser. 7, 4 : 212), is very well-known and impressive. Unfortunately this commonly used name now proves to be a junior homonym of *Camelopardalis giraffa* var. *reticulata* Weinland, 1863 (*Zool. Gart.* 4 : 205). This name is not a *nomen nudum* as believed by Krumbiegel (*Die Giraffe*, 1939 : 40).

2. The homonymy has not yet been recognized. Both names refer to different taxa: (a) *reticulata* de Winton, 1899, has been based on specimens from regions east of the Loroghi Mountains (Kenya). (b) *reticulata* Weinland, 1863, has a more complex basis: one specimen (no locality) then living in the Frankfurt Zoological Garden, and further material collected by Rüppell at Baggara el Homr (Southern Kordofan); Mertens (*Senckenb. biol.* 49 : 86, 1968) fixed one of Rüppell's specimens (♂, SMF 498) as lectotype of *reticulata* Weinland. This specimen (SMF 498) at the same time is lectotype of *Camelopardalis antiquorum* Swainson, 1835 (designation by Schwarz 1920). Consequently *reticulata* Weinland, 1863, proves to be a junior objective synonym of *antiquorum* Swainson, 1835.

3. Under these circumstances it seems necessary to suppress the name *reticulata* Weinland, 1863 also for the law of Homonymy, in order to preserve the commonly used name *reticulata* de Winton, 1899. So the Commission is asked:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to suppress the subspecific name *reticulata* Weinland, 1863, as published in the combination *Camelopardalis giraffa* var. *reticulata*, both for the purposes of the Law of Priority and those of the Law of Homonymy;
- (2) to place the subspecific name *reticulata* de Winton, 1899, as published in the combination *Giraffa camelopardalis reticulata*, on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology;
- (3) to place the subspecific name *reticulata* Weinland, 1863, as published in the combination *Camelopardalis giraffa* var. *reticulata* on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology.